

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 48, No. 32

www.laughlin.af.mil

Aug. 18, 2000

the inside Scoop

Staying in touch:

Air Force general encourages all Air Force members to stay in touch with the community by wearing their uniforms with pride when out in public...

Page 2

Crime prevention:

Base security forces suggest each Laughlin member take crime prevention measures to safeguard personal property...

Page 7

Pilot graduation:



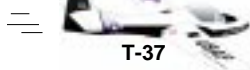
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 00-13 graduates...

Pages 10, 11

Mission status

(As of Aug. 16)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)

	+ 1.6
	+ 2.03
	+2.1

Fiscal Year 2000 statistics

--Sorties flown: 60,163
--Hours flown: 88, 937.1
--Pilot wings earned in FY 00: 272
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,637

Index:

Viewpoint.....page 2
News.....page 3, 4
Xler.....page 7
Sports.....page 15
Classifieds.....page 17
Newsline.....page 20

Base pilot recognized for actions following near failure of both T-37 aircraft engines

By Airman 1st Class
Brad Pettit

Editor

A T-37 instructor pilot here was recently awarded the Air Education and Training Command Well-Done Award for staying cool under pressure during a major aircraft in-flight emergency, leading to his safe landing and preventing the loss of the aircraft he was piloting.

Capt. Charlie Acevedo, 84th Flying Training Squadron, was recognized for following in-flight emergency checklist items to the letter, remaining calm and acting on his extensive training to avoid what could have been a major disaster in December.

"I was practicing some touch and go landing exercises at the Wizard auxiliary field when the pattern became pretty full," explained Acevedo. "I decided to leave there and go to an area that was less crowded when suddenly, at approximately 300 feet above ground level, it felt like I hit a brick wall. At first, I thought

it was just a problem confined to one engine, but when I checked my instruments, they indicated both engines were winding down. I thought, 'not again,' because I had lost both engines the year previous as well. But, it was happening again."

Immediately, Acevedo began to evaluate his situation and perform procedures necessary to safely abandon the aircraft at low altitude. "While I was initiating the procedures, all of the sudden this huge yawing motion jerked the plane hard to the left, and I saw the right engine had started winding back to 85 percent," said Acevedo. "I did my best to keep a steady airspeed and declared an emergency. I tried some other quick checklist procedures to see if I could get the left engine to kick back on, but nothing seemed to

work. It was hopelessly stuck at 32 percent."

After determining that the left engine was staying where it was and that the right engine was continuously winding down as well,

Acevedo set up his aircraft in a single engine configuration, which establishes a more controllable condition in a thrust situation.

"I give credit to all the emergency procedures training I've received while in AETC," said Acevedo. "I immediately shifted my mindset into a crisis mode where training and flying discipline took over. Landing the aircraft was relatively

anticlimactic considering the events were happening so quickly. I set myself, placed the airplane on final and landed with thoughts of how

See 'Landing' page 8

"Once you land an aircraft following an emergency like that, and your body is still whole and complete, you take a step back and say 'that was (crazy)!'"

-Capt. Charlie Acevedo
84th Flying Training Squadron

84 FTS instructor pilot wins Carl Crane award

By Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Editor

A T-37 instructor pilot here recently received the Carl Crane Award for being named the Top Instructor Pilot Graduate of 1999 by the 12th Flying Training Squadron at Randolph AFB, Texas.

1st Lt. Michelle Pryor, 84th Flying Training Squadron, received the award for demonstrating hard work, dedication, leadership and superior flying ability while enrolled in pilot instructor training there from March through June.

PIT classes are designed to teach T-37 pilots how to train others to fly the aircraft. Pryor was recognized for outstanding performance in PIT Class 99-08, where she demonstrated excellent instructional capabilities, overall outstanding grades and contributed to and worked

See 'Award' page 8



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Youth Center re-opens

(From left) CJ Kennedy, J Miller Construction Co., Denise Booth, Youth Center director, Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, Red Pilkinton, J Miller Construction and Col. John Betts, 47th Support Group commander, gather to cut the ribbon at the Youth Center reopening Monday. The renovations of the facility include a new fully operational kitchen, a staff resource room and a school age coordinators office, as well as a staff restroom.

Laughlin welcomes the ORI Inspection Team

Commanders Corner

Laughlin resource advisors prepare for end of fiscal year

By Maj. Joseph Baca

47th Comptroller Flight

While people still debate whether the millennium has come and gone or is just around the corner, Laughlin's resource managers prepare for the end of fiscal year 2000 nonetheless.

Every Air Force base is primarily funded by operations and maintenance funds, which are limited by Congress to be in effect for a one-year period from Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 (known as a fiscal year). This limitation dictates the "end of year" process whereby requirements are identified and prioritized in order to compete with those requirements from other bases and MAJCOMs, prior to being obligated. The goal of this process is to fund those requirements that provide the best bang for the Air Force buck.

What's involved with end of year closeout? Well, first, all the money that was requested the previous year for your account is prioritized and spent appropriately. If a certain organization asked for and received \$10,000 to purchase a piece of equipment, it's paramount the funding is obligated before the end of the fiscal year. By obligated, we mean a contract awarded for that item.

Another aspect of closeout is the frantic, non-stop pace of the folks involved – they show a real sense of purpose and urgency. When the first of September rolls around, the 47th Comptroller Flight becomes a madhouse – no leave for Team XL resource folks! People are trying to push last minute requests for funding (i.e. Air Force Forms 9, 616, 4009, etc.) through the proper channels. The Comptroller, budget personnel and resource advisors are assembling a prioritized unfunded items list. That way we know we're ready to execute funding for the wing's top priorities quickly. These purchases may take place if we happen to get last minute additional funding passed down from the Air Education and Train-

ing Command, or money here on base becomes available because a contract can't be awarded, thus coining the term "fall out".

"Well now," you're thinking, "all of this is nice, but how does it affect me?" If you need some computers and didn't have the funds to purchase them this year, then this may be your chance to try to acquire them. Your group resource advisor should have already sent out a request for unfunded items and it will have been prioritized with every other request on base. With this list compiled and the supporting documentation in hand, the Comptroller and budget chief, on behalf of the wing commander, are able to "purchase" these 11th hour items with any additional funds AETC authorizes us. Sometimes this money comes late into the night on Sept 30. That is why the Comptroller flight, resource advisors, contracting and other Team XL personnel are pulling an all-nighter.

In preparation for all of this, the various stewards of the wing commander's money are coordinating with each other to make sure the lines of communication are open and everyone is singing off the same page in the hymn book. Strategy sessions occur in the form of close-out meetings, Financial Working Group meetings and multiple mini-conferences between analysts and the resource advisor of individual organizations. Phone calls, e-mails and faxes are flying. There seems to be a virtual financial and informational battle waging throughout the base, command and Air Staff.

So, if in late September you run into someone who works for the Comptroller, Contracting, or a resource advisor, look closely. If his eyes are bloodshot, have great big black circles under them, or have other telltale signs, you'll understand. They have not been celebrating the end of the millennium, but have been working late competing for scarce funding to support Team XL.

Staying in touch with community part of AF mission

By Gen. John P. Jumper

Air Combat Command commander

Every airman deserves to feel a great sense of pride serving his or her country every day. We all show our pride by our selfless duty in heeding our nation's call around the globe and keeping our nation free. We also wear our pride on our uniform.

When Americans think of the Air Force they think about our great men and women in uniform. Our uniform helps define us; it's what sets us apart.

So, what better way to stay in touch with the public than making our uniform more visible to them? Actions as simple as wearing your uniform when you travel on official business, when visiting family and friends can go a long way in cementing a partnership with the American people.

Time and time again I hear stories of Air Force airmen who, because they were wearing their uniform, were approached by people just wanting to simply say, "thank you for serving our country." In turn, these airmen have taken the opportunity to share their pride in serving the Nation. I can't think of a more rewarding experience that shows people do care about us, and that they appreciate our willingness to put ourselves in harm's way to protect their freedom.

We have great people in this country that would love to be part of the Air Force, to be part of something bigger than themselves. However, their knowledge of what the Air Force is all about is often limited by what they see. Wouldn't it be nice if our uniform was seen by more people who could join us and be our future leaders?

We're very fortunate to have the support of our communities. It's up to all of us to build upon that foundation. It's everyone's responsibility to help ensure the public understands the role the Air Force plays in our national defense.

Aerospace power is pivotal to the success of U.S. military commanders, both in peacetime and in war. We shouldn't be shy about telling people this fact. We certainly shouldn't be shy about showing them our uniform.

(Courtesy of ACC News Service)

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

Commander

1st Lt. Angela O'Connell

Public affairs officer

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Editor

The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

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Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be E-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

Montgomery GI Bill goes unused by half who "buy"

By Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

Can you imagine turning down \$20,000 in education benefits – especially if you paid for it in advance with cold cash and sweat equity?

Half of all service members eligible for Montgomery GI Bill benefits regularly do just that, according to Department of Veterans Affairs officials. Service members qualify for the Montgomery GI bill benefits by contributing a nonrefundable \$100 per month throughout their first year of active service and successfully completing an active-duty "hitch."

Walking away from the benefit is a waste of great investment, VA officials said. At the current

\$536 monthly benefit for 36 months of full-time schooling, the GI Bill pays \$16 for every \$1 members must invest, according to Dennis Douglas, VA deputy director for education services.

He and other VA officials stressed GI bill benefits do not have to be paid back, unlike student loans.

Recent changes to the Montgomery GI Bill make it even better, said VA spokesman Terry Jemison. The program, he said, now pays the cost of some preparatory courses for college and graduate school entrance exams.

Also, eligibility has been expanded to some officer training school graduates and surviving spouses. Proposals now under

consideration before Congress would increase monthly payments, he added.

The education benefit provides many military men and women with education opportunities that otherwise might not be available, according to Jemison.

"We owe them, I believe," Douglas said. "It really is an opportunity for us to honor them for what they did for this nation."

More information in the program can be found at the GI bill Web site maintained by the VA.

The Web site offers detailed information, application forms and FAQs covering the Montgomery GI Bill, earlier GI bills and other VA educational programs.

(Courtesy AFPN)



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Kathy Craven, Education Office guidance counselor, explains the Montgomery GI Bill benefits to Senior Airman Douangchan Lasrithammavan, 47th Operations Support Squadron.

Military Web site debuts to provide information to parents

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

When the new Web site goes on line Aug. 14, todaysmilitary.com will become the latest arrow in the quiver aimed at getting recruits in the military.

The Web site is an outgrowth of the recently ended "Yahoo! Fantasy Careers in Today's Military" contest. The fantasy career Web site was "a success by any measure," said Cmdr. Yvette Brown-Wahler, Defense Department director for recruiting plans.

"Over 3,300 essays were submitted to the services through Yahoo! Careers," she said. "Forty percent of the contestants requested additional information from the re-

spective service regarding career opportunities." The program showed that the Internet is the medium to reach people, she said.

Brown-Wahler said todaysmilitary.com is an "adult influencer Web site" – meaning it is aimed at parents, teachers, veterans, coaches, scoutmasters, ministers or any adult that young men and women go to for career advice. The site will give visitors information they may need about the military. Many parents, for instance, are not aware of the opportunities available in the military.

"We have eight ways to earn college degrees," she said. "We have more than 150 military occupations. But many parents and other adult influencers have no idea we

offer so much."

One reason parents often have no idea what the military offers is that fewer people have firsthand experience with the military since the draft ended in 1973, and the military has been shrinking in size for more than 10 years. Todaysmilitary.com will be a one-stop information source.

"There will be general overall discussion of the military and links to the services' home pages," she said. The services are working on their Web sites to make them easier to navigate, Brown-Wahler said.

DoD officials said the Web site will cost about \$13 million to \$14 million to set up and advertise. Print advertisements will begin in October and television ads start in January, Brown-Wahler said. BATES Worldwide is the contractor for the program.

(Courtesy AFNEWS)

Actionline *Call 298-5351*

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Winfield W. Scott III

Col. Winfield W. Scott III
47th Flying Training Wing commander

Exercise recalls...

Call: I have some questions about exercise recalls. If I am called early in the morning, what am I supposed to do with my children? Do I take them to the Child Development Center? Do I take them to the Youth Center? Will these facilities be opened? What can I do to make sure that I can get my children into care and get to work in a timely manner. Thank you very much.

Response: Our goal is to assist parents in meeting childcare needs so they can devote their full effort to support the mission. The Chief, Family Member Programs Flight, who oversees the Child Development Center, Youth School Age Program and Family Childcare, strives to support exercises and real world situations. Child Development Center employees are on the base recall roster and will open the Child Development Center to support these contingencies. During exercises when there is an early morning recall,

parents using FCC should notify their provider so that they can drop their child off on their way to work; part of their FCC contract.

Parents who have children in the Child Development Center and School Age program can make one stop at the Child Development Center on the way to work. The Child Development Center staff will provide care for the older children and coordinate with the Youth staff in transporting the children to the Youth Center.

Once at the Youth Center, staff will provide a breakfast and either see them off to school at the appropriate time or continue with an all-day camp. A determination will be made as to the necessity of extending care beyond the day. Parents are advised that cost is based on 10 hours of care. Fees are in accordance with their individual contracts. Any questions on this matter should be directed to the Youth Director at 5343 or the Child Development Center director at 5419.

Base readiness inspection begins Monday

By 2nd Lt. Clint V. Fisher

ORI prep

Protests at the main gate, mass casualties on base and terrorist activities – all simulated – soon will be common sights at Laughlin. These are potential exercises conducted during the 47th Flying Training Wing’s upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.

Inspectors from Randolph AFB, Texas arrive on Sunday for a 12-day inspection of Laughlin beginning Monday. The ORI looks at how well a base does in its wartime mission, along with how well its personnel comply with rules and regulations during its day-to-day duties.

During the ORI, the base will undergo a variety of exercises, heavily tasking base members and creating some inconveniences for those living and working on Laughlin. These exercises include progressively higher levels of Threat Conditions, Major Accident Response Exercises, exercises involving simulated Hazardous Materials and the execution of a Severe Weather Plan, simulating a natural disaster, such as a flood.

THREATCONS range from THREATCON Normal, which designates a routine defense posture, all the way to a base wide “lock down” during THREATCON Delta.

During the ORI, the base begins at

THREATCON Normal and progresses through the higher levels until climaxing at THREATCON Delta. The higher the level, the less time spent in it. For example, the base might go straight to THREATCON Alpha Monday and stay in it for days, but a THREATCON Delta exercise likely will last only a few hours.

THREATCONS aren’t the only exercises the base will contend with. A MARE tests the base’s response to a major accident, such as a plane crash on base. This exercise will include simulated mass casualties and similar events associated with a major accident on base. Civilians should not be alarmed when they see out-of-the-ordinary sights on base. They are urged to report suspicious activities to security forces, and civilians with medical experience can stop and render aid if they are first on the scene. These types of actions help to show Laughlin’s active duty personnel, civilians and family members working together to do the best job possible.

There is no set schedule for these exercises, so those living and working at Laughlin should plan for the worst, leaving early and using the west gate when possible to alleviate long lines at the front gate, especially with the current Highway 90 construction.

Everyone is reminded to carry their

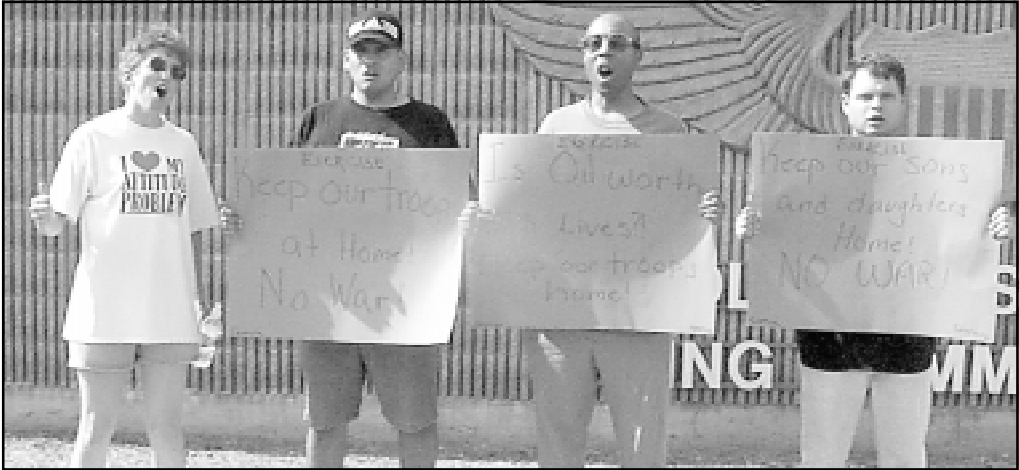


Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

(Left) Lt. Col. Barbara Stewart, 47th Flying Training Wing Inspector General, Senior Airman Robert Hernandez, 47th Support Group, Tech. Sgt. William Mayo, 47th Services Division and Staff Sgt. Tom Wade, 47 Services Division participate in a mock protest at the main gate during a preparatory ORI exercise Aug. 7. Mock protests like these are a common site during ORIs.

Department of Defense identification at all times during the inspection. Identification is needed to enter buildings during various levels of THREATCONS and to enter the base even if a vehicle has a base sticker.

Those traveling on and off base should expect delays due to increased security, including possible identification checks, visual inspections and vehicle searches. The base gates might be closed during THREATCON Delta.

The ORI should have little effect on the Base Exchange, Commissary, Youth Center and Child-Care Center; however,

the gymnasium might be utilized for parts of exercises and could be closed or evacuated. Everyone except contractors working to renovate the Fitness Center will be required to evacuate. Please don’t complain if you are asked to leave.

To find out what level of THREATCON the base is under, tune to the Commanders Access Channel, Cable Channel 34, during the ORI for updates.

The HQ/AETC Inspector General will hold personal conference periods on Monday in the Oasis Room between 1 and 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

	THREATCONS DEFINED		
	THREATCON	MILITARY ACTION	DEPENDENT ACTION
ALPHA	Applies when there is a general threat of possible activity against personnel and facilities, the nature and extent of which is unpredictable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Secure unoccupied buildings, rooms and storage areas➤ Increase spot checks of entering personnel➤ Review plans for implementing higher THREATCONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Carry ID cards at all times➤ Report suspicious vehicles, persons and activities.➤ Secure personal vehicles & storage areas not in regular use.➤ Check all home deliveries
BRAVO	Applies when an increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Secure unoccupied buildings, rooms and storage areas➤ Increase spot checks of entering personnel➤ Review plans for implementing higher THREATCONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete all ALPHA actions➤ Vary daily routines and traveling routes➤ Remove name plates from key personnel quarters
CHARLIE	Applies when an incident has occurred or intelligence is received indicating some form of terrorist action against personnel and facilities is imminent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete ALPHA and BRAVO checklist items➤ Check ID of all personnel entering work centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete all ALPHA and BRAVO actions➤ Keep home windows and drapes closed at all times
DELTA	Applies in the immediate area where a terrorist attack has occurred or when intelligence has been received that terrorist action against a specific location or person is likely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete ALPHA, BRAVO and CHARLIE checklist items➤ Ensure 24-hour-a-day security for controlled areas➤ Security checks every 6 hours➤ Provide armed escort for all high-value items➤ Suspend all nonessential commercial deliveries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete all ALPHA, BRAVO and CHARLIE actions➤ Limit outdoor activities to a minimum

ORI SURVIVAL TIPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Carry your Department of Defense Identification Card at all times.➤ During some exercises, there may be only one entrance in and out of a building.➤ Have your identification out and ready when approaching the gates, as well as your registration and proof of insurance if you don’t have a base vehicle sticker.➤ If the base is in THREATCON Delta, stay at home until it is over unless it is absolutely necessary to leave.➤ Active Duty, Civilians and Family Members will need their IDs to enter some base buildings.➤ Report suspicious activities to Security Forces.➤ Don’t call Security Forces to find out what is happening. Either use your chain of command, or wait until your military spouse comes home to ask.➤ Wear seatbelts and place children in the proper child restraint devices.➤ Limit visits and phone calls to spouses at their workplace.➤ Be patient and remember all of the inconveniences are part of an inspection. Help us to look good!

Education office encourages members to use programs

By Kathy Craven

Education office

The Laughlin Education Office offers professional and off-duty educational opportunities to assist military personnel, family members and civilians in attaining career and academic goals.

For professional advancement, Professional Military Education programs, through distance learning, are available for officer and enlisted ranks at the education office. This includes Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College and Air War College for officers and the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy for enlisted members. Correspondence enrollments are accepted throughout the year, but seminar and cyber-seminar officer course enrollments are only accepted in late spring with classes beginning in early August.

Airmen may apply for various commissioning programs through the education office. There are several methods available for pursuing a commission. Program offerings range from full to partial scholarships, while pursuing a degree, to programs available after completion of

your bachelor's degree. Application deadlines and eligibility requirements differ for each program, so contact the education office for further information.

Four academic institutions are represented at Laughlin and offer the following degrees:

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (732-5529)

Master of Aeronautical Science

Associate/Bachelor of Science degree (distance learning)

Park University (732-5593)

Associate/Bachelor of Science degrees in Management or Social Psychology

Southwest Texas Junior College (732-5827)

Associate of Applied Science

Associate of Arts

Various certification programs

Sul Ross State University

(732-5529)

Bachelor Arts/Science

Master of Business Administration

Teacher education/certification programs

In addition, the education office maintains a resource of colleges and universities offering courses and degree programs through distance learning.

Community College of the

Air Force is another avenue open to enlisted members for a 2-year Associate in Applied Science degree. Air Force members earn college credit for basic training, technical training and professional military education, which is applied to CCAF degree requirements. CCAF is regionally accredited and offers approximately 70 degree programs in 5 general career areas. Each program leads to an Associate in Applied Science degree upon completion of a minimum of 64 semester hours of Air Force and civilian course work.

Air Force Tuition Assistance is available to all active-duty Air Force members pursuing a degree. TA helps members with the cost of tuition at the rate of 75 percent of up to \$250/semester hour (includes lab fees but not books and university fees) and there is a \$3,500/year cap. In addition, forms are available at the education office for VA eligibles wanting to use their VA benefits.

The Laughlin Education Office is also a test site offering college entrance exams, college level exams, career and guidance tests and various certification exams. Exam proctoring is

available for students enrolled in military or civilian distance learning courses. Most exams are free for active-duty military members; however, dependents and civilians are required to pay. While most exams are available on a weekly basis, some have restricted testing dates and times. Contact the education office regarding availability of and applicable dates and fees for specific exams.

Other services offered through the education office include, but are not limited to, professional career and guidance counseling services for active-duty members, their dependents and civilians; updating enlisted military member's education levels (officer education levels are updated through the Air Force Institute of Technology -AFIT) and information on various sources of financial aid.

The professional staff at the Laughlin Education Office is available Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. to help those interested in pursuing educational and professional goals. For more information regarding those programs listed above or regarding your education, contact us at 5545.



United States Air Force

ONLINE news

news

editorials from leaders

letters to the editor

Hey!

You should be doubling your intake.

If you aren't looking at the United States Air Force

Online News as an additional source of information, you aren't getting everything.

Check it out Wednesday at:
<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Water conservation is everyone's responsibility

By Airman 1st Class
Angela Ripperda

47th Civil Engineer Squadron

Water conservation is not just an expression or something that a single individual can do.

It is everyone's responsibility and duty to actively participate in preserving our precious resources.

Water conservation is so important, and the reason is simple. We all use water resources on a daily basis. Wise conservation habits can help benefit the Laughlin community achieve significant savings in terms of money and resources.

Laughlin has a watering policy in effect for base residents. Even numbered houses can water on even numbered days and odd numbered houses on odd number days from 5 to 9 a.m. and 6 to 11 p.m. Watering your lawns does not include your housing units, driveways or

streets. Studies show that no matter how much or how long you water them they do not grow – it only wastes water.

To effectively water your lawn, turn on your sprinkler enough to water the grass only.

In areas of the lawn that the water does not reach, move the sprinkler to that location when finished watering the first location.

Fifteen minutes of direct watering will provide a sufficient amount of time to promote grass growth and greenness. Anything more is over watering and does nothing but run off into the street.

The Laughlin watering policy is being monitored. Yard tickets are being given to those not following the watering days and times. You can report water misuse by calling 5853.

As of June, Laughlin has an energy reduction rate of 32 percent. An Executive Order mandates that we need to have a re-



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Ernest Garcia, cart custodian at the Leaning Pines Golf Course, alternates the course sprinkler system during the base morning watering hours.

duction rate of 30 percent by 2005. Therefore, we have exceeded our goal. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Please help keep this reduction rate going and continue to help Laughlin by doing your part to conserve water and energy.

Crime prevention procedures

Protecting one's valuables at home from theft is just as important as protecting government resources.

Suppose you contact security forces and report that your bicycle has been stolen. When the desk sergeant asks you to identify it, all you can remember is that it is a black mountain bike. You do not remember the make of the bike and you never knew, or can't remember the serial number. A short time later, you again contact the security forces investigation section to see if the bike has been recovered. The investigator then says that he has five mountain bikes with no way to establish positive ownership except one. The owner of that bike had engraved his social security number on the frame of the bike. This is one example of the advantages of marking your property.

Thieves are reluctant to steal items that can be readily identified because they are difficult to dispose of through illegal channels. Prosecution is enhanced when property can be positively identified as belonging to a specific individual. If marked property is lost or stolen, the owner's chances of recovering the property are much greater.

One way of keeping track of property is to use a Valuable Property Record (AF Form 1670), which is available through the Laughlin Home Page. Fill out this form and maintaining it in your records may be the difference between regaining your property or the loss of the property all together.

Engravers are available for signing out from security forces. For more information, contact Tech Sgt. Jude Richard at 5589, Staff Sgt. Eric Linneman at 5333, or Staff Sgt. Laval Jenkins at 5249.

The *XLer*

Hometown: Menominee, Mich.

Family: 3 brothers, 1 sister.

Time at Laughlin: Long enough.

Time in service: 7 1/2 years.

Why did you join the Air Force family? Fly fighters.

Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Get more instructor pilots or less students.

Greatest accomplishment: Leaving Laughlin with some hair left.

Bad habit: Chewing tobacco.

Motto: Cute sayings on T-shirts are exactly that – cute. Actually, doing it takes 100 percent effort.

Favorite beverage: Jeremiah Weed.

If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why? Vince Lombardi. He did things right and accepted nothing less.



Photo by Amanda Stewart

Capt. Aaron Kerkman
87th Flying Training Squadron

Where are they now?

Name: Capt. Jon A. Reesman.

Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 93-08, April 30, 1993.

Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: C-17A, Charleston AFB, S.C.

Mission of your aircraft? Strategic and tactical airlift.

What do you like most about your current aircraft? Reliability, mission, people.

What do you dislike most about your current aircraft? Operations tempo.

What was the most impor-

tant thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Learning how to overcome failure and deal with difficult people.

What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? Hooking my solo on the wing in T-37s for putting my flaps (accidentally) to 1/2, then retracting them when I was told to (the instructor pilot claims he didn't tell me to).

What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Stay away from the margaritas at Crosby's.



(Air Force photo of a C-17)

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

Preventing Fraud, Waste and Abuse is everyone's job! If you know or suspect FWA, call the FWA Hotline, Ext. 4170, or call the Inspector General office, Ext. 5638.

‘Landing’ from page 1

quickly could I get out of that hunk of metal.”

Following the successful landing, Acevedo was removed from the plane by the emergency ground crew. “After landing, and walking away from the plane, I thought of all that could have gone wrong during the emergency,” explained Acevedo. “Once you land an aircraft following an emergency like that, and your body is still whole and complete, you take a step back and say, ‘that was (crazy)!’”

“Acevedo’s sound judgement, swift reactions and decisive actions were key to preventing loss of life and aircraft in a tense situation,” said Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander. “His superb flying skills were clearly evident in the safe landing of the aircraft.”

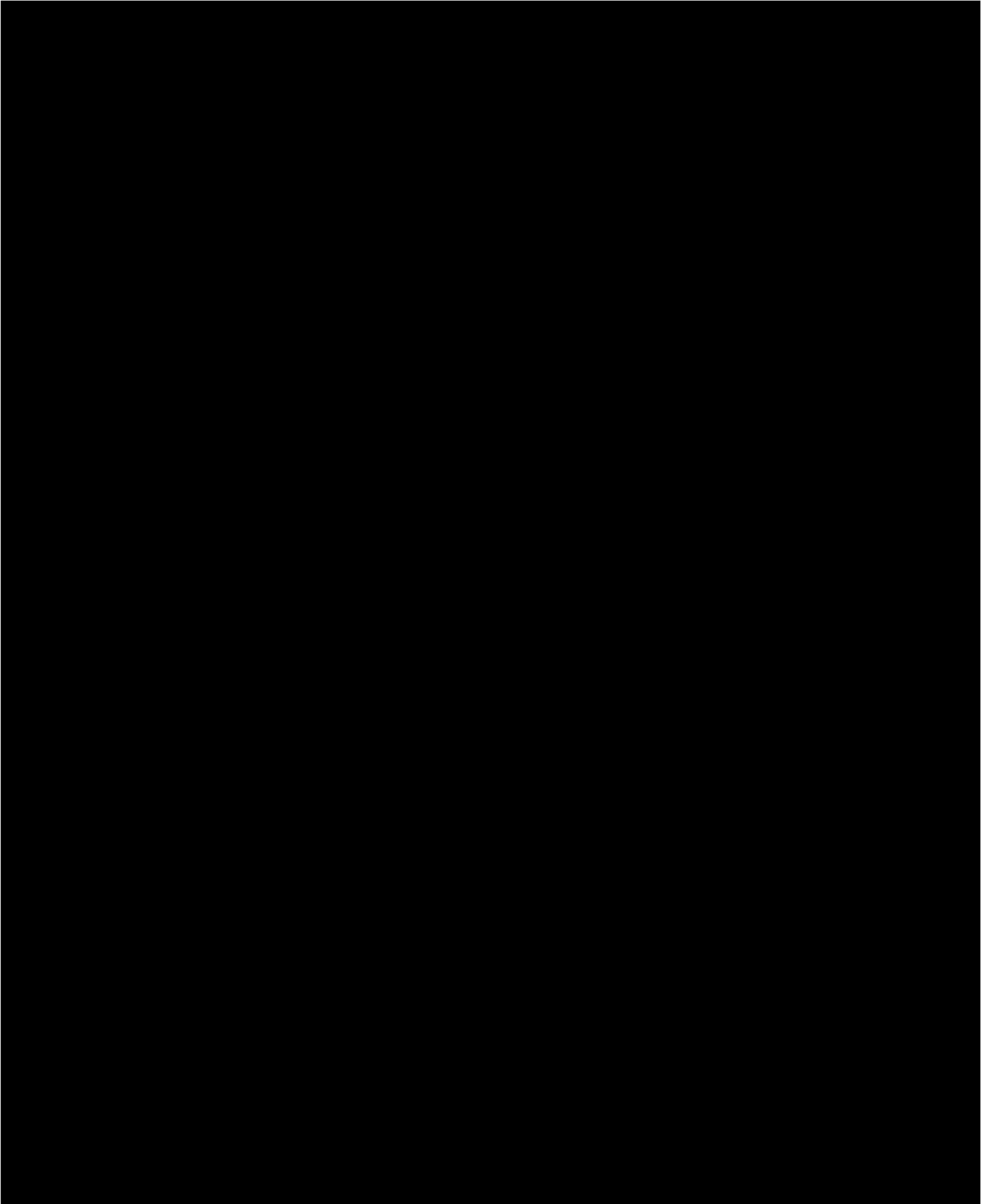
‘Award’ from page 1

with fellow trainees. “We (fellow students and instructors) felt that she deserved the award due to her willingness to work with others and to help her fellow trainees when they needed it,” said Lt. Col. Mark Sheedy, 85th Flying Training Squadron.

“Overall, being an instructor is an excellent opportunity to share with students now what I learned both as a student and what I learned through instructor training at Randolph,” said Pryor. “I’m eager to help students with problems that I have learned to solve while in PIT.”

Pryor’s exceptional performance, recognized both at Randolph AFB and Laughlin, has not escaped the attention of her commander. “Her award is a tremendous honor, and I’m very pleased to have her as a Panther,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Keith, 84 FTS commander. “To be singled out as the best puts her at the head of a very distinguished group. Based on her performance since joining the 84th, I’m not surprised by her selection,” explained Keith. “She’s become a major contributor in no time – I expect great things of her in the future.”

Safety belts save lives – so buckle up!



Aiming high!

Class 00-13 graduates today

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 00-13 graduates at 10 a.m. today in a ceremony in the Operations Training Complex.

The 52-week SUPT program prepares student pilots for the entire spectrum of Air Force aircraft and flying missions.

Training begins with three weeks of physiological and academic training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine subsonic T-37 Tweet. In the T-37, students learn flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing, aerobatics and formation flying.

Primary training consists of 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, the future pilots are selected for advanced in-flight training in a specialized area or track. The tracks include tanker, bomber and cargo pilot training in the T-1 aircraft, fighter pilot training in the T-38, turbo-

propeller aircraft training in the Navy's T-44 and helicopter training in the Army's UH-1.

Advanced training takes about 26 weeks and involves 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

Graduates of Class 00-13 have been assigned to aircraft at duty stations throughout the world.



Capt. Albert A. Croom, Jr.
Class Leader
KC-135 Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C. (AFRC)



Capt. Bradley K. Smith
Assistant Class Leader
F-15C Tyndall AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. Brett J. Rafferty
E-8 Robins AFB, Ga.



1st Lt. Yeow Koon Wee
F-5 Paya Lebar AB, Singapore



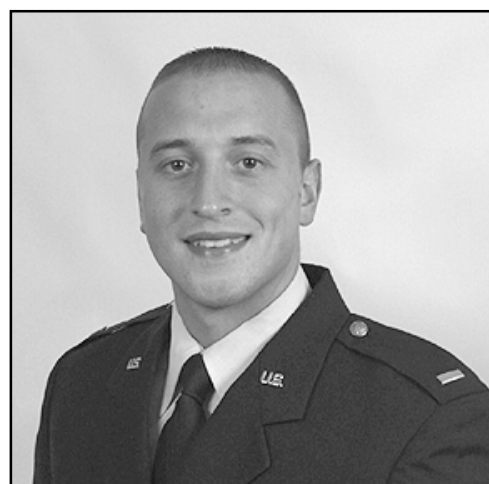
2nd Lt. Melih Atalan
F-4 Konya AB, Turkey



2nd Lt. William B. Berger
C-141 Wright Patterson, Ohio (AFRC)



2nd Lt. James M. Bieker
C-141 McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Andy R. Carattini
C-130 Martinsburg, W.Va. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Patric D. Coggin
A-10 Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Dixon D. Croft
T-38 Laughlin AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Mark E. Donohue
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Jonathan C. Dowty
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Steven V. Engberg
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Clifford R. Erli
C-141 Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio
(AFRC)



2nd Lt. Ross W. Goodin, Jr.
KC-135 Meridian, Miss. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Jason M. Holcomb
C-5 Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Heather A. Jackson
KC-135 Beale AFB, Calif. (AFRC)



2nd Lt. Jeremy D. Lane
KC-135 Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Joseph J. McConnell
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Grant A. Mizell
C-130 Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. James J. Muniz
KC-135 McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Jason T. Nalepa
T-37 Laughlin AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Rebecca R. Neel
C-21 Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Douglas P. Pierre
KC-10 Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Jacob B. Raser
C-17 Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Michael M. Zwolve
T-1A Laughlin AFB, Texas



From the Blotter

(From Aug. 7-14)



■ Security Forces detained five suspected illegal aliens near the Laughlin main gate. The individuals were released to U.S. Border Patrol agents.

■ An individual telephoned the law enforcement desk relating that an individual was pumping gas into a government vehicle and did not remove the hose before leaving. The hose was ripped and damaged. Cost of the damage is unknown at this time.

■ Security forces personnel on patrol discovered two facilities unsecured. A joint check between security forces and the building custodian was conducted. The building was then secured.

■ An individual reported a verbal altercation at the base commissary. Police units contacted the individuals and they were turned over to their supervisors.

■ Ten military members requested assistance gaining entry into their vehicles due to their keys being locked inside. Security forces patrolmen gained access to all the vehicles without damage.

Tip of the week: With the Operational Readiness Inspection rapidly approaching, we at the 47th Security Forces Squadron would like to provide you with some tips in order to XL during the inspection.

■ Place a tag on your bags with your name and

telephone number. Do not leave them unattended - even for a minute. Continuously remind your personnel to keep their bags and equipment with them. We had a used lunch bag and a box of coffee mugs called in during last week's exercise, which caused a lot of unnecessary confusion.

■ If your work center is clean and orderly, it makes it easier to spot out of place items.

■ Always carry your identification card with you. Even if you know the person at the door, you will be required to identify yourself.

■ Visitors must be identified immediately. Do not allow persons to loiter around your unit.

■ Be very careful when discussing information on the phone or while conversing with your co-workers. A simple remark such as the number of extra box meals that you had to pick up may disclose the number of personnel going on a movement.

■ Report suspicious activity to the security forces. Provide a name and number where you may be contacted and give as much information as you can to the desk sergeant.

■ Protect information. Knowledge is power and power the bad guys should not have.

■ Be patient and expect delays, even if you are in a rush. We are all working toward the same goal.

Question of the week

What will you do with your free time now that your kids are back in school?



"I will be helping them with their homework and going to football games."

Capt. Derek Sherrill
47th Flying Training Wing



"Free time? I don't have any free time!"

Staff Sgt. Charles Jones
47th Flying Training Wing



"I can spend more time with house work and doing things I enjoy."

Senior Airman Diana Beauvais
Base chapel



"What free time. I'm working!"

Peggy Miles
Postal Service Center

Base law office defines fair debt collection practices

By Captain Lucy Carrillo
47th Flying Training Wing law office

Most Americans are in debt. They owe money on their homes, credit cards, education, cars, medical bills, stereos and televisions.

When a debtor does not make payment to the creditor as agreed, the creditor will take measures to collect the debt. The creditor may try to collect the debt or they may hire a collection agency to attempt to collect the debt for them.

Collection agencies specialize in debt collection. In most cases, the collection agency either “buys” the debt from the creditor, or is paid a percentage of what they recover for the creditor. In either case, the collection agency has a great interest in seeing to it that the debtor pays the amount due. In the past, collection agencies used harassing, embarrassing, or strong-arm tactics to collect debts, so in 1978 Congress passed the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec 1692, et seq. This law does not erase any legitimate debt that is owed, but it provides specific rules that debt collectors must follow, and prohibits abusive debt collection methods by debt collectors.

A debt collector may:

- Contact the debtor by phone, telegram or mail
- Tell the debtor that they work

for a collection agency and are contacting them about a debt that is past due.

- Inform the debtor of the amount of the debt, the identity of the creditor and the steps the debtor must take if the debtor feels there has been an error. This information must be supplied to the debtor in writing within 5 days of the first contact.
- Contact others, but only for assistance in locating a debtor such as finding a home or employment address.
- Sue the consumer for the debt, but only in the judicial district where the debtor lives, or where the contract was signed.

A debt collector may NOT:

- Contact the debtor at inconvenient times, such as before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m., unless the debtor agrees.
- Contact the debtor at work if their employer (supervisor or commander) disapproves.
- Contact the debtor directly once the debtor has written the collection agency a letter asking them not to contact him further.
- Tell anyone else that the debtor owes money (except for the debtor’s attorney).
- Use threats of violence or harm to the property or reputation of the debtor.
- Publish a list of debtors who refuse to pay their debts (except to a credit bureau).
- Use obscene or profane language.
- Repeatedly call the debtor in

- order to harass him.
- Contact the debtors without identifying themselves.
- Make any false statements, including statements:
 - Implying that they are an attorney or government representative when they are not.
 - Implying that the debtor has committed a crime when he or she has not.
 - Misrepresenting the amount of the debt.
 - Indicating they are sending legal papers when they are not, or Indicating they are not sending legal papers when they are.
 - Threaten the debtor with arrest.
 - State that they will take actions against the debtor that may not be taken by law.
 - Send documents to the debtor, which resemble official government or court documents.
 - Use a false name.
 - Collect any amount greater than your debt unless allowed by law. (For example, collection agencies are often authorized to collect interest and late fees.)
 - Deposit a post-dated check before the date on the check.
 - Make the debtor accept collect calls or pay for telegrams.
 - Contact the debtor by post

card.

- Send any mailing to a debtor which indicates on the envelope that the mailing is in reference to the collection of a debt

What if the debt collector breaks the law?

According to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, a debtor who is the victim of illegal practices by a collection agency may sue the agency in Federal court regardless of the amount of the controversy.

The Act also allows private law suits against debt collectors who break the law. Suit must be filed within one year of the illegal practice. If the debtor wins the suit, he or she may recover any monetary damages caused by the illegal practice, as well as court costs and attorney’s fees in some cases.

This article provides only general information about fair debt collection. The specific facts in your case may involve different legal issues not discussed here, you should consult an attorney at the Legal Office.

Legal assistance hours are Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m. and Thursdays from 8-9 a.m., or call 298-5172 to set up an appointment with an attorney.



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<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Champions: *MDG 1 defeats CES*

The 47 Medical Group “Chosen Few” won the base softball championship Wednesday night by sweeping the first two games of a best of three series from 47 CES.

The first game had CES jumping out in front 3 to 0 in the first inning. The “Chosen Few” answered with three runs of their own to tighten up the score. Pitcher “Mo” Morrison went the distance and silenced the CES bats the rest of the way. Offense was provided by the “Biceman” Ernie Bice as he went 4 for 4 in the first game. Hank Bowman stroked an error-assisted in the park homerun that plated 3 runs to give MDG an insurmountable lead. The Final score was MDG 9, CES 6.

The second game started

out exactly the same as the first with CES plating three runs in the first inning. Once again the “Chosen Few” answered and tied up the score.

Jason Shirey and the “Biceman” ignited the offense, which went on to score a total of 12 runs.

The offensive turning point of the game came when CES Coach Len Sobieski flied out, after that CES tried to counter with key substitutions in the last few innings but fell short once again. Final score MDG 12, CES 8.

“The key to our success this year has been our steady defensive play coupled with an offensive that is capable of scoring each and every inning” stated MDG Coach Hank Bowman.

The “Chosen Few” would like to give thanks to the people who came to the games and supported them this season.

Thanks also to Gerald Gott, Staff Sgt. John Fastinger and the rest of the Fitness Center staff that provided ground support and kept the season interesting.

“Chosen Few” members include; Dave Morrison, Ernie Bice, Hank Bowman, Terry Williamson, Lee Erickson, Jason Shirey, Nate Kerbs, Todd Draper, Tony Ramillosa, Pat Rodriguez, Alan Mills, Paul Buckingham, Calvin Young, Todd Smith, Deryck Hill and S.A. Martgan

(MDG 1 story submitted by Hank Bowman, Health and Wellness Center).



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

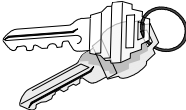
First pitch

Col. Herbert Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, throws out the first pitch in the first playoff softball game between the 47 MDG and CES Wednesday. MDG won both the first and second games to become the 2000 intramural base softball champions.

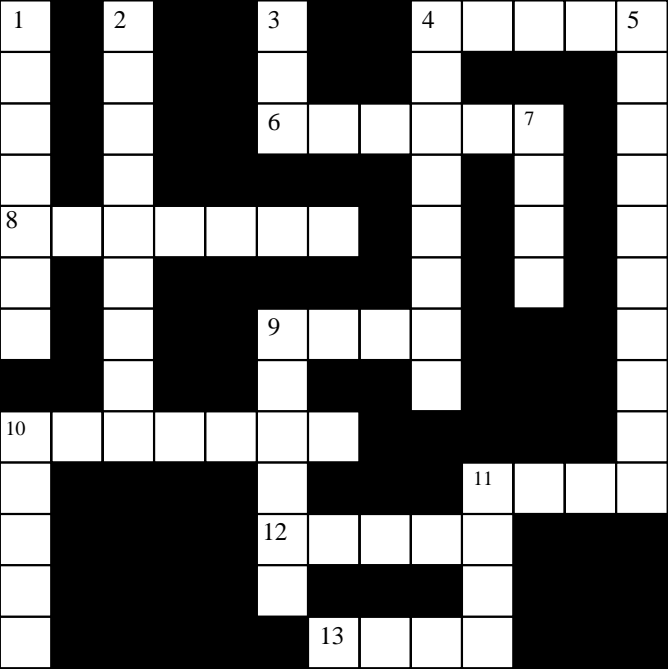
Team	Pts.
Fire Dept.	135
OSS	126.5
LCSAM	121
LSI 1	112



Think safety:
Keep all valuables secure!



IG crossword puzzle



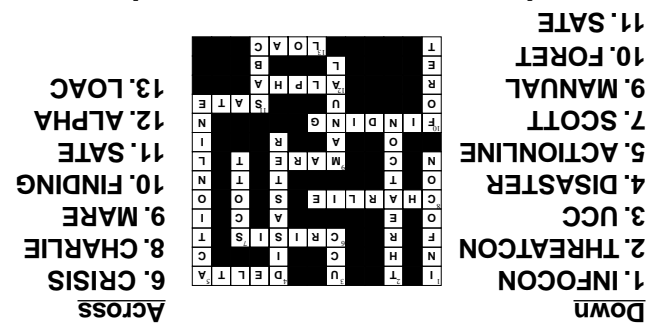
ACROSS

6. The _____ Action Team is convened at the direction of the Wing CC in response to disaster and meets in the Command Post Crisis Action Room.
8. INFOCON _____ is declared when intelligence assessments and reports indicate a limited attack has occurred.
9. Major Accident Response Exercise (abbr.)
10. A _____ is a significant deficiency requiring a specific answer to HQ AETC on corrective actions.
11. Security Awareness Training and Education (abbr.)
12. THREATCON _____ is declared as a general warning of terrorist activity.
13. Annual training required on ROE during armed conflict (abbr.)

DOWN

1. A comprehensive defense posture and response based on the status of information systems, military operations and intelligence assessments of adversary capabilities and intent is called _____.
2. JCS approved program standardizing Services recommendations of and response to terrorist threats to U.S. personnel and facilities.
3. Unit Control Center (abbr.)
4. The _____ Control Group (DCG) goes to the site of a disaster which has occurred.
5. The _____ (298-4170) is a direct line to the Wing CC and your opportunity to make Laughlin a better place.
7. Colonel Skip _____ is the 47 FTW/CC.
9. The Air Force's "How to Guide" where you can find the answers to most of these questions is the Airman's _____ (AFM 10-100).
10. Colonel Herb _____ is the 47 FTW/CV
11. Self Aid Buddy Care (abbr.)

(Crossword answers)



Looking to the ORI

(By Lt. Col. Barbara Stewart, 47th FTW inspector general)

5-day checklist

- The ORI starts Monday! Are you ready?
- Commanders: Have you gone out and looked at all the areas in your span of control to make sure they are clean and ready to go?
- Have you received your parking signs (if needed)? Have you put the updated pubs and requested documents in the IG private space in your work area?

Laughlin history

The 47th Flying Training Wing can trace its heritage back to World War II and the illustrious combat record of the 47th Bombardment Group. Which of our present day flying training squadrons trace their lineage to the 47th Bomb Group as well?

- (a) 85 and 87 FTSS
(b) 85 and 86 FTSS
(c) 84, 85, and 86 FTSS

The correct answer is ... B. The 85th and 86th can both claim the heritage of the 47th Bomb Group. The 84th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) (later Fighter), the predecessor of the 84 FTS, was activated in 1942 and assigned to the 78th Pursuit (later Fighter) Group. The 87 FTS traces its lineage back to 1917 when it was designated as the 87th Aero Squadron. The squadron was later redesignated the 87th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) in January 1942 and assigned to the 79th Pursuit (later Fighter) Group.

Phone-in prescriptions

Effective immediately, the 47th Medical Group Pharmacy will be providing a new service in processing prescription refills. A state-of-the-art automated phone-in refill system has been installed, which will not only eliminate wasting times on refill prescriptions, but also help the pharmacy staff more efficiently manage all prescription processing.

The toll-free phone number is 1-877-252-4523. You will be asked to enter the last four digits of the sponsor's social security number as well as the prescription number(s).

For more information on this new procedure, call the pharmacy at 298-6451.

Dumpster usage

The two large trash containers located at the enlisted common area on Cannon Street (behind O'Brien Street) and in the officers' area on East Vandenburg Street (behind Brown Street) are for your use in preparing for the ORI. Please do not put leaves, branches, or grass clippings, or any hazardous waste materials (such as paint, oil, or aerosol cans of any kind) in these dumpsters.

The compost area is the designated drop-off point for leaves, branches and grass clippings.

For more information, call Alexander Wehr at 4198.

Tobacco cessation course

The next tobacco cessation course starts Sept. 5. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. or 4:30 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center Conference Room.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Ray Fernandez at 6463 or 6464.

Enlisted ceremonies

The Noncommsioned Officer Induction and Enlisted Promotion Ceremony will be held at 3:30 Aug. 31 at Club Amistad. Laughlin's staff sergeant selects will be inducted into the NCO corps and promotees for September will be recognized.

For more information, call Master Sgt. James

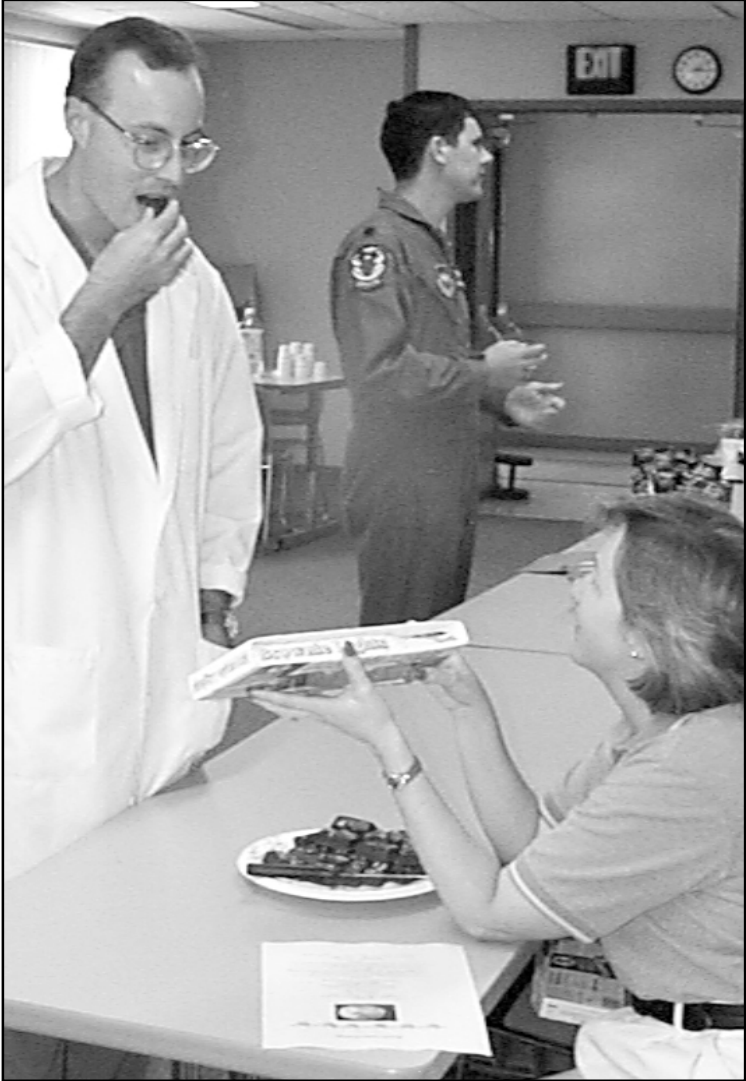


Photo by Trina Ezernack

Try this!

Capt. Michael Blamires, 47th Medical Group, tastes a low-fat brownie given to him by Maj. Kerri Wyble, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron during the Helping Us Grow Stronger committee and Health and Wellness Center's third annual Healthy Dessert Taste-Testing Demonstration Aug. 10.

Donnett at 5068.

Base law office closure

The base law office will now be closed every Friday from 7:30 – 9 a.m. for staff training.

For more information, call Capt. Lucy Carrillo at 5172.

Chapel service

The chapel will have a Eastern Orthodox Service today at 7 p.m. The service, The Divine Liturgy, is among the most ancient of Christian worship services. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, call the base chapel at 5111.

OSC meeting

The Officers' Spouses Club will host a "Welcome Back Social" 6:30 p.m. at Club XL Tuesday. The event is free to members and nonmembers.

RSVP by noon Monday to Angela O'Connell (A-L), 298-7081 or Jackie Oberdeick (M-Z), 298-7201.

Laughlin new arrivals

- **Heston "Cabot" Erickson:** 8.4 pound boy born Aug. 10 to Capt. Lee M. Erickson, 47th Medical Support Squadron and his wife D. Renee. Heston has a sister, Emmie.